

Application No. 09/856,277
Paper dated April 2, 2004
Further response to Office Action of August 19, 2003
Attorney Docket No. 702-010802

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of skeletal muscle subjected to immobilization which results in muscle disuse syndrome in an animal or human for which such treatment is indicated, comprising administering two or more doses daily of a creatine compound in unit dosage form during ~~at the~~ immobilization period and/or during a subsequent rehabilitation period, and further wherein the creatine compound dosage amount decreases substantially to one dose daily after the end of the immobilization period and during the rehabilitation period for up to about ten weeks.

14. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein said creatine compound is creatine.

15. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein said creatine compound is a creatine analogue.

16. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the animal or human to be treated need not in addition perform a training programme to increase muscle volume and muscle functional capacity.

17. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the creatine compound, in unit dosage form, is administered in an amount that leads to a total daily supplementation of about 5 to 20 g creatine.

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18. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein said muscle disuse syndrome is the result of reduced physical activity due to immobilization, disease, aging or handicap.

19. and 20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the total treatment period lasts up to between about two to twelve weeks.

22. (Previously Presented) A method for the ~~prevention or~~ treatment of muscle disuse syndrome in an animal or human for which such ~~prevention or~~ treatment is indicated, comprising administering a creatine compound in unit dosage form during an immobilization period and a subsequent rehabilitation period, and further comprising administering about 5 g creatine compound, in unit dosage form, more than once daily during the immobilization period and subsequently administering about 5 g creatine compound, in unit dosage form, only once daily during at least a portion of the rehabilitation period, wherein the rehabilitation period lasts no longer than 10 weeks.